

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A dryer assembly for drying a liquid ink image formed on a substrate comprising a housing defining a portion of a sheet moving path; a plenum positioned within the housing, the plenum including air flow and outlet means contiguous to the plenum permitting forced air to exit the plenum, the outlet being in the form of a plurality of moving openings adapted to direct flowing air through the openings to the liquid image, the openings moving relative to the image; and a substrate transport device for moving the substrate carrying the liquid ink image on a front side thereof through the housing and under the plurality of moving openings. An ink jet printing machine for printing a liquid ink image on a sheet of paper moving along a sheet path through a printing zone therein, the ink jet printing machine comprises a frame; a printhead mounted to said frame and containing liquid ink for depositing image-wise onto the sheet of paper to form a liquid ink image. A dryer assembly for drying the liquid ink image on the sheet of paper, the dryer assembly comprising (i) a housing defining a portion of the paper sheet moving path; (ii) a plenum positioned within the housing, the plenum including air flow and an outlet means permitting forced air to exit the plenum, the outlet being in the form of a plurality of moving openings adapted to direct flowing air to the liquid image, the opening moving relative to the image; (iii) a paper sheet transport means for moving the paper carrying the liquid ink image on a front side thereof through the housing and under the plurality of moving openings; and a controller connected to a forced air feeding device for

controllably blowing air onto the sheet only when there is interrupted sheet movement through said housing of the sheet within the housing.